

## Message Text

PAGE 01 CANBER 06501 250711Z

21-12  
ACTION SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /031 W  
----- 083473

O R 250610Z JAN 74  
FM AMEMBASSY CANBERRA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2415  
INFO AMEMBASSY SEOUL IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY TOKYO

C O N F I D E N T I A L CANBERRA 6501

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PFOR, AS, KN, KF  
SUBJECT: AUSTRALIAN RECOGNITION OF NORTH KOREA

REFS: (A) STATE 15976; (B) CANBERRA 470

1. ROK CHARGE GONG HAS BEEN OPERATING EFFECTIVELY IN CANBERRA. HE CALLED UPON WHITLAM'S PERSONAL ASSISTANT, PETER WILENSKI, AND STRESSED ARGUMENT THAT NEW ROK AMBASSADOR LO WILL NOT ARRIVE FOR (VAGUELY) SEVERAL WEEKS AND SHOULD BE PERMITTED OPPORTUNITY PASS PARK'S VIEWS PERSONALLY TO WHITLAM. WILENSKI APPEARED RECEPTIVE TO ROK CONCERNS AND SAID HE WOULD BRIEF WHITLAM JANUARY 26 SINCE PRIMIN NOT ABREAST OF DEVELOPMENTS LAST FEW DAYS.

2. CHARGE SPOKE BY TELEPHONE WITH DFA DEPTUY SECRETARY WOOLCOTT AND CALLED UPON ASSISTANT SECRETARY HANDMER TO REINFORCE SNEIDER'S ARGUMENTS TO PLIMSOLL (WHICH HAD BEEN FAITHFULLY REPORTED). SUGGESTION THAT AUSTRALIA ENLIST SMALLER EAST EUROPEAN COUNTRY APPEARS TO HAVE SOME APPEAL, AT LEAST IN DFA, AND AUSTRALIANS ARE INTERESTED IN ANY THOUGHTS WE MAY HAVE ON PROS AND CONS OF PARTICULAR COUNTRY CANDIDATES. RELATIONS WITH YUGOSLAVIA, BY THE WAY, ARE IMPROVED BUT STILL TOUCHY DUE TO CITIZENSHIP PROBLEMS RELATED CROATIAN TERRORISTS. CHARGE ADDED ARGUMENT THAT WHITLAM'S TOUR OF ASEAN COUNTRIES NEXT TWO CONFIDENTIAL

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WEEKS MIGHT BE MORE BUMPY IF MOVE TOWARD RECOGNITION MADE RIGHT AWAY.

3. GOA HAS NOT YET APPROACHED DPRK. SUMMARY OF REACTIONS

OF GOVERNMENTS CONSULTED HAS BEEN PREPARED FOR WILLESEE  
AND WHITLAM AND DECISION ON NEXT STEPS SHOULD COME IN  
NEXT 48 HOURS. THERE IS REASON FOR OPTIMISM THAT GOA  
MAY AGREE ON DELAY OF SEVERAL WEEKS BUT EARLY RECOGNITION  
REMAINS BASIC GOA POLICY.  
HARROP

CONFIDENTIAL

<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 27 JUL 1999  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Decaption Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
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**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
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**Disposition Reason:**  
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TOKYO  
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